

# APPROACHES TO SECOND LANGUAGE ACQUISITION

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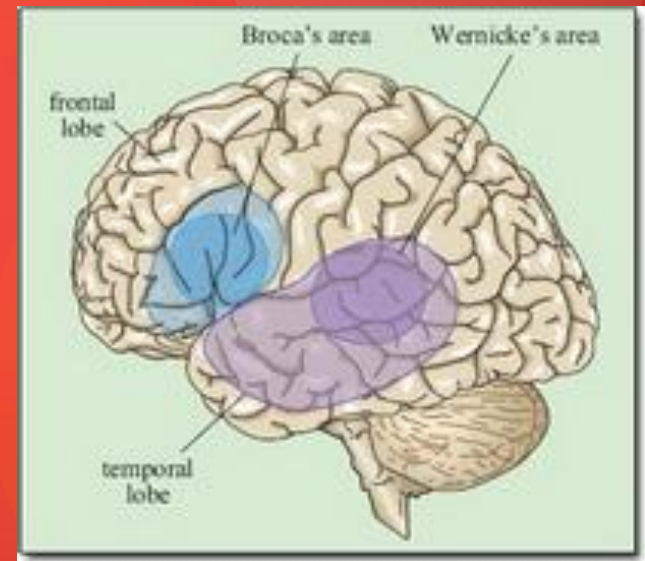


# Two approaches to SLA

- The Interactionist Approach



- The Innatist Approach



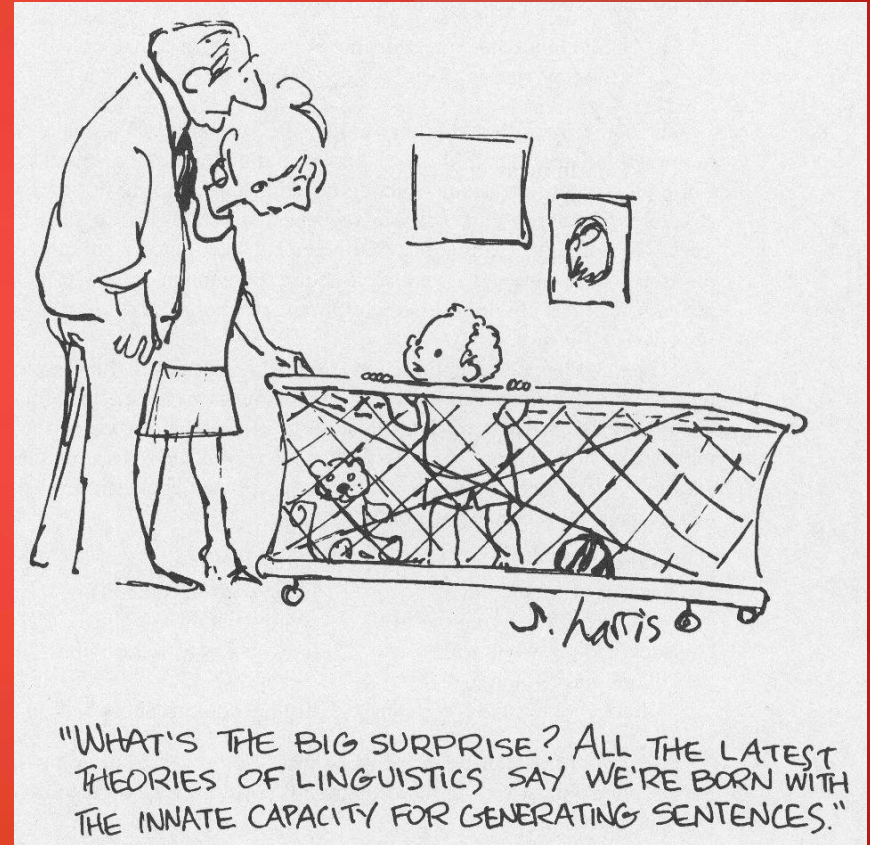
# Interactionist Approach



- Vygotsky believed that a second language is learned by social interaction with others
- Interaction and social experiences promote and aid SLA.
- Environmental factors are more dominant than inborn factors.

# Innatist Approach

- Supported by Chomsky
- The brain's language acquisition device (LAD) can generate and process a language innately.
- Universal grammar can be identified correctly without being taught.





# Influential Factors of SLA



## Age

- There is a critical period to learn a language. That period is between the ages of 2-12. The younger the child, the quicker they pick up on a language. This is because of the

## Other Factors

- Home Support
- Home environment
- Learning environment
- Individual's motivation (especially important for adults)
- Native language
- Learner's interactions with L2 speakers.





# Helpful Tips for Teachers

**Here are some tips to use when working with ELL students.**

- Prepare Visuals
- Use peer teaching (allows El students to use their English).
- Add vocabulary word banks to work.
- Model “think alouds”
- Explain vocabulary using simple language and provide synonyms for academic terms.
- For more tips go to [http://www.everythingsl.net/in-services/twenty\\_five\\_quick\\_tips\\_classro\\_70733.php](http://www.everythingsl.net/in-services/twenty_five_quick_tips_classro_70733.php)

# Best Approach for Students

- The interactionist approach is the best approach for students because social interactions allows them use and improve their language skills.
- The more a students interacts, the more comfortable they are with L2. They can become self motivated to learn L2 if they have friendships with native speakers of that language.



# Best Approach Aligned With My Teaching

- The interactionist approach is also the best for my teaching. I interact with my students all day. There is a connection needed between teacher and student for true learning to occur.
- Not only academically, but having interaction with our students allows us to get to them and create trust.







# Helpful Resources

- Theories of SLA

[http://crescent.rale.k12.wv.us/Webpage/lifelong\\_experiences.htm](http://crescent.rale.k12.wv.us/Webpage/lifelong_experiences.htm)

- Teaching tips for teachers

[http://www.everythingsl.net/in-services/twenty\\_five\\_quick\\_tips\\_classroom\\_70733.php](http://www.everythingsl.net/in-services/twenty_five_quick_tips_classroom_70733.php)

- Provide several articles dealing with ESL students.

<http://www.everythingsl.net/in-services/>

- A guide for classroom teachers

<http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/esl/policy/classroom.pdf>

- Factors that influence SLA

<http://esl.fis.edu/teachers/support/factors.htm>

# References

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